## **Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method for <u>decreasing</u> the <u>reduction</u> <u>absorption</u> of phosphate or oxalate <u>from the gastrointestinal tract of in vivo in</u> an animal which comprises <u>the step of</u>: administering an effective amount of a formulation comprising a water soluble polyether glycol polymer which comprises: a structural back bone of carbon atoms and oxygen atoms where there are at least two consecutive carbon atoms present between each oxygen atom; a moiety on the backbone of the polymer or a functionalized derivative on the polymer, that is cationic <u>at physiological pH</u> and permits complexation with phosphate or oxalate; and an average molecular weight from about 5,000 to about 750,000 Daltons with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.
- 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the polymer is a polyepihalohydrin derivative.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 2 wherein the effective amount of formulation for reduction decreasing absorption of phosphate is from about 1 to about 15 grams per meal.
- 4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 2 wherein the effective amount of formulation for reduction decreasing absorption of oxalate is from 0.6 to about 5 grams per meal.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A use of a water-soluble polyether glycol polymer which comprises: a structural backbone of carbon atoms and oxygen atoms where there are at least two consecutive carbon atoms present between each oxygen atom; a moiety on the backbone of the polymer or a functionalized derivative on the polymer, that is cationic at physiological pH and permits complexation with phosphate or oxalate; and an average molecular weight from about 5,000 to about 750,000 Daltons as an agent for decreasing the reduction absorption of phosphate or oxalate in wivefrom the gastrointestinal tract in an animal.